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SENATE RESOLUTION 201
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Juan Dixon of the
University of Maryland Terrapins, 2002 NCAA
National Basketball Champions.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to recognize those
outstanding athletes who, through their remarkable achievements, serve as an inspiration to all
Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Juan Dixon of the University of Maryland is one such estimable athlete and
basketball player; during his collegiate career, he played the game in such a commendable way
as to ensure that he will long hold a prominent position in the rich lore of Terrapin basketball;
and

WHEREAS, as a freshman, he burst onto the collegiate basketball, earning Atlantic
Coast Conference All-Freshmen Honorable Mention; this was only the first of countless honors
he would earn during his collegiate career; and

WHEREAS, Juan Dixon joined the legendary John Lucas as one of only two Terrapins to
ever be named First Team All-ACC in three consecutive seasons; and

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WHEREAS, a two-time finalist for the Naismith and Wooden Player of the Year Awards, he was selected as a Senior as a First Team All-American by the Associated Press, National Association of Basketball Coaches, and United States Basketball Writers Association; and

WHEREAS, the statistical measures of his career are unequalled; he is the only player in NCAA history to have collected 2,000 points, 300 steals, and 200 3-point baskets, and he is the leading scorer in Maryland history, with more than 2,200 points; and

WHEREAS, he represented the United States of America with honor and distinction at the 2001 World University Games, where he led the U.S. team in scoring and, with 24 steals, broke the team steals record previously held by Allen Iverson; and

WHEREAS, Juan Dixon never fouled out of a game during his collegiate career; his incredible court leadership helped to make him the outright most winning Terrapin ever, with 110 total victories being recorded during his outstanding career at the University of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the crowning achievement of his career was provided by the team's triumphal run through the 2002 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament which culminated with a National Championship, the first in school history and the ultimate dream of every college basketball player; and

WHEREAS, while Juan Dixon's accomplishments are so numerous and so singular that they are inspirational in their own right, his story becomes truly special when his personal life is considered; and

WHEREAS, each time he steps to the free-throw line, he lightly taps his chest in memory of his mother, a picture of whom is tattooed above his heart; and

WHEREAS, both of Mr. Dixon's parents were heavy drug users and died of AIDS while he was in high school; instead of succumbing to the negative pressures of his neighborhood and using them as an excuse for failure, Juan Dixon persevered to eventually become one of the greatest players in college basketball history; and

WHEREAS, instead of exposing himself to the drugs and temptations of the Baltimore streets, he took refuge in school and sports and devoted himself to personal improvement; and

WHEREAS, he received devoted care from his grandparents and remarkable mentorship from his older brother, Phil, a former Division III All-American at Shenandoah College; and

WHEREAS, Phil showed Juan a world without drugs that emphasized basketball and education; and

WHEREAS, like his brother, Juan resolved to play collegiate basketball and earn his degree; he has succeeded in the classroom, as well as on the court, and he plans to complete his degree in Family Studies this the fall, just as he begins his career in the National Basketball Association; and

WHEREAS, for ages to come, faithful Terrapin fans will fondly recall the many gutsy performances of Juan Dixon and the moments when he elevated his game and inspired the rest of the team to attain that higher level with him; and

WHEREAS, they, and we, will also forever remember his dedication, fortitude, and remarkable perseverance in the face of hardship and heartbreak; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we now pause in our deliberations to honor and commend this vastly talented and inspirational human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and commend Juan Dixon for his outstanding collegiate basketball career, salute his outstanding character, and join with his family, friends, teammates, and coaches in thanking him for the fond memories which he provided for the basketball fans of this nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish him much happiness and success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.